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# ESSENTIALS

## IN AN ADEQUATE PLAN OF MISSIONARY FINANCE

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1. A Missionary Pastor
2. A Missionary Committee
3. A Program of Prayer for Missions
4. Systematic Missionary Education
5. The Weekly Offering for Missions
6. An Annual Every-Member Canvass
7. The Duplex Envelope as the Most  
Effective Collecting Device



## Why a Weekly Offering for Missions?

1. It is Scriptural. 1 Cor. 16:2. This injunction was not concerning the local church expenses but referred to a missionary offering.
2. It is educational. It keeps missions and benevolences habitually before the people.
3. It enlists more givers.
4. It secures much larger aggregate offerings.
5. It replenishes the Mission Board treasuries regularly, preventing indebtedness and financial loss through interest payments.
6. It does not decrease but actually increases the offerings to current expenses.
7. It is fair. "Love thy neighbor as thyself." There is no justification for having a better plan for securing current expenses than for missions.
8. It promotes prayer. Each weekly offering becomes an act of worship.

Systematic, proportionate, cheerful weekly giving is the most Scriptural, fair, businesslike and productive method. Where properly introduced and conscientiously worked it secures the largest possible results, educationally, financially and spiritually. The weekly offering need not interfere with special offerings on suitable occasions, such as Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

## Why an Annual Every-Member Canvass?

1. It answers the personal questions and objections of members.
2. It supplements most helpfully the public instruction and appeal.
3. It compels a fresh consideration by each member of his personal missionary responsibility.
4. It dignifies the missionary cause in the minds of all.
5. It vastly increases the number of systematic contributors.
6. It discovers and develops many new workers.
7. It promotes acquaintance of canvassers with the congregation and with the community.
8. It often reclaims many lapsed members of the congregation.
9. It stimulates church attendance.
10. It avoids multiplied appeals for money from the pulpit.
11. It is an invaluable spiritual inspiration to the canvassers and to the congregation.

These reasons are not theoretical but have been discovered in actual experience in a large number of congregations. Any one of them is strong enough to lead pastors and church officers to give this method preference over any other now in use. In their combined strength, they constitute a conclusive argument for the organized canvass in every church that aims at reasonable efficiency.

## How to Conduct an Every-Member Canvass

1. Conduct an educational campaign through a period of two or three weeks preceding the canvass.
2. Have a conference of all the men of the church at a supper with tickets purchased in advance.
3. Display figures at the supper showing the number of givers and what the church has given (in aggregate and per member)—
  - (a) To current expenses.
  - (b) To missionary work in America.
  - (c) To foreign missions.
4. After full discussion adopt by rising vote a definite financial goal for missions for the ensuing year, including the number of subscribers to be secured.
5. Ask for no subscriptions at the supper.
6. Appoint canvassers and train them in one or two special meetings.
7. Divide them into teams of two each.
8. Assign the entire church membership to these teams for canvass, for an offering on the weekly basis.
9. Commission them at a Sunday morning service, explaining their duties to the congregation and commending the effort in special prayer.
10. Permeate the entire canvass with prayer.
11. Complete the canvass within ten days.
12. At the close of the canvass hold a service for full reports and thanksgiving.

Giving, like prayer, is a Christian grace. The father cannot exercise this grace for his child nor the wife and mother for her husband and family. The church owes it to its membership to give each member a share in the missionary work of the church. No Christian life is complete which does not have part in the world-wide work of the Kingdom.

## Some Advantages of the Duplex Envelope System

1. It encourages regular, systematic and liberal giving, not only for current expenses but for missions at home and abroad.
2. It helps to give the missionary work of the church its right place in the thought of the Christian.
3. It avoids the multiplication of envelopes for special causes.
4. It is the simplest device for collecting both current expenses and missionary offerings.
5. It keeps the missionary funds separate from other church funds and enables them to be readily handled by the Missionary Treasurer, who should forward funds each month to the Boards or Societies.
6. The dates on the envelopes remind the contributors of the days they have been absent from church service and stimulate them to pay their delinquent subscriptions.
7. The subscription and envelope plan encourages thoughtful consideration of what one should give, instead of leaving it to momentary impulse when appeals are made from the pulpit.
8. Many thousands of churches have proved by experience that it is the best collecting system yet devised.

If your denominational board does not publish duplex envelopes, they may be ordered of the Duplex Envelope Company, Richmond, Va.



## Features of Educational Campaign Preceding Every-Member Canvass

1. Special sermons by pastor.
2. Addresses by laymen.
3. Appropriate pamphlets widely distributed.
4. A supper conference of all the men of the church.
5. Special meetings for prayer.
6. Special meetings for canvassers to prepare for their work.
7. A circular letter to all families stating what is to be attempted and preparing them for the visit of the canvassers.

*Note.* This period of intensive missionary education may well be carried on for two or three weeks each year.

## Features of Systematic Missionary Education to be Carried on During the Year

1. The organization of missionary discussion clubs or study groups to meet one evening each week for six or eight weeks, using suitable books or pamphlets as a basis of discussion.
2. Monthly missionary meetings where several of the men of the church speak on different topics.
3. Striking missionary facts on church bulletins.
4. Missionary facts and illustrations in sermons.
5. The wide use of missionary books, pamphlets and magazines. The pamphlet literature prepared by the Laymen's Missionary Movement deserves special study and is eminently adapted to wide use.

The Laymen's Missionary Movement, as the result of very wide experiment during the past five years, stands for the principles and methods outlined in this folder. Very much fuller information and suggestions may be secured by reading the literature of the Movement or by correspondence with the Secretaries of the Movement at 1 Madison Avenue, New York City, or with any of the State, Division or Denominational Secretaries.

The Movement appeals for an army of men, both laymen and ministers, to assist actively in securing universal adoption of these principles and plans. It recommends the appointment in every city or county, of a small City or County Committee of the Laymen's Missionary Movement, to work unitedly for the adoption of these plans among all the churches of the city or county. These committees, while composed chiefly of laymen, should always include some pastors. A special folder, outlining the duties of such a committee, may be obtained on application.

## Indispensable Literature

For men who desire to be most efficient as missionary advocates and workers.

*25 cent Packet of 10 Selected Pamphlets on Missions.*

*50 cent Packet of 20 Pamphlets (including above 10).*

*25 cent Packet of Pamphlets on Prayer and Missions.*

*Pamphlets on Stewardship—Send for samples and prices.*

*Over Against the Treasury.* Courtenay H. Fenn. 10 cents each, \$1.00 a dozen, \$7.50 per 100.

*With You Always.* A Sequel to "Over Against the Treasury." 238 pages, in story form, 20 cents each, \$2.00 a dozen, \$15.00 per 100.

Two of the most effective arguments for missions ever published.

*They Did It.* The record of sample churches that have adopted the methods of the Laymen's Missionary Movement. 5 cents each, 40 cents a dozen, \$2.00 per 100.

*Suggestions to Leaders in the Every-Member Canvass.* 5 cents each, 50 cents a dozen, \$3.25 per hundred.

*Manual of Missionary Methods.* J. Campbell White. 5 cents each, 40 cents a dozen, \$2.50 per hundred.

*Men and Missions.* Issued monthly, 50 cents a year. The trade paper of the Laymen's Missionary Movement.

Other valuable and timely pamphlets are being issued at frequent intervals. Send for catalogue.

*Price of this leaflet, 50 cents a hundred, carriage paid; \$4.50 a thousand, carriage extra.*

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1 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK